

## **Gastric Tube Placement/Exchange**

- 1. Labs are not usually ordered unless the patient is on anticoagulant therapy or the patient's condition indicates the need (i.e., diagnosis that decreases platelets). Results need to be as current as the day of the procedure.**
- 2. Be prepared to keep the patient NPO for 4 hours prior to the procedure. This will include tube feedings.**
- 3. Usually, routine medications are given, excluding anticoagulants. You will need to obtain an order for withholding anticoagulants.**
- 4. I.V. access will be needed for antibiotics, pain meds, I.V. fluids**
- 5. If the patient is unable to give informed consent, please make sure the appropriate designee is available, either in person or by phone.**

**An Imaging nurse can be reached at x5280, M-F, 7am-7pm. After hours, the on-call nurse can be paged by contacting the Imaging front office at x4455.**